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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/822,967	04/13/2004	Valentino John Constantino	CONS-0001	3605
23550	7590	03/23/2006	EXAMINER	
HOFFMAN WARNICK & D'ALESSANDRO, LLC			RIVERA, WILLIAM ARAUZ	
75 STATE STREET			ART UNIT	
14TH FL			PAPER NUMBER	
ALBANY, NY 12207			3654	

DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/822,967	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CONSTANTINO, VALENTINO JOHN	
	<b>Examiner</b> William A. Rivera	<b>Art Unit</b> 3654	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.  
     4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
     a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Specification*

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: page 18, line 6 and page 24, line 1, the numeral "170a" is used to designate "three enclosed roll holders" and the "outer storage half basket".

Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoo Kong (U.S. Patent No. 6,422,503) in view of Barnett (U.S. Patent No. 5,305,937).

With respect to Claim 9, Hoo Kong, Figures 1-3, teaches a stand for dispensing a paper product, the stand comprising: a hollow elongate housing 11 configured to be disposed in an upright position, wherein the elongate housing includes: a first end configured to be a top surface when the elongate housing is disposed in the upright position, a second end disposed opposite the first end; a first elongate aperture 30 disposed proximate the first end, wherein the first elongate aperture is configured to dispense the paper product in a vertical direction. Hoo Kong teaches all the elements of the stand except for a web tear plate. However, Barnett, Figure 1, teaches a web tear plate 63 attached proximate to an elongate aperture. It would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art to provide Hoo Kong with a tear plate, as taught by Barnett, for the purpose of facilitating the tearing of the material.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoo Kong in view of Barnett as applied to claim 9 above, and further in view of Harris (U.S. Patent No. 4,124,259).

With respect to Claim 15, Hoo Kong in view of Barnett are advanced above. Hoo Kong in view of Barnett teaches all the elements of the stand except for a mini-table top. However, Harris, Figure 1, teaches a mini-table top configured to removably cover the top surface. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Hoo Kong in view of Barnett with a mini-table top, as taught by Harris, for the purpose of accommodating any items as needed and exemplified by Harris in Figures 1 and 2.

Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoo Kong in view of Barnett and Harris as applied to claims 9 and 15 above, and further in view of Danzi (U.S. Patent No. 5,301,888).

With respect to Claim 16, Hoo Kong in view of Barnett and Harris are advanced above. Hoo Kong in view of Barnett and Harris teach all the elements of the stand except for the mini-table top configured to dispense another paper product on the mini-table top. However, Danzi, Figure 1, teaches a mini-table top configured to dispense another product. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide Hoo Kong in view of Barnett and Harris with a mini-table top configured to dispense another product, as taught by Danzi, for the purpose of eliminating the need to reach within the stand for a roll of paper.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 1-8 and 18-26 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-8 are allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the entire combination of elements of the stand set forth including a hanging roll holder configured to hold the paper product proximate the first elongate aperture, wherein the hanging roll-holder comprises: a base; an arbor attached to a center portion of the base; a brake washer configured to be inserted over the arbor; and a plurality of hanging rods that are each attached to an outer portion of the base and configured to set in one of the plurality of housing rod grooves.

None of the references of the prior art teach or suggest the hanging roll holder as advanced above and such do not provide the necessary motivation, absent applicant's specification, for modifying the stand in the manner required by the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claims 10-14 and 17 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

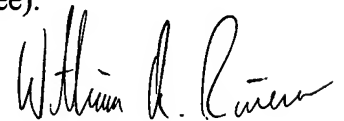
***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William A. Rivera whose telephone number is 571-272-6953. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday - 5:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki can be reached on 571-272-6951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William A. Rivera".

**WILLIAM A. RIVERA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

March 20, 2006